

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough consideration provided the present application. Claims 1-19 and 21 are now present in the application. The specification, abstract and claims 1, 6 and 17 have been amended. Claim 21 has been added. Claim 20 has been cancelled. Claims 1 and 17 are independent. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that dependent claims 3, 4, 15 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants greatly appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter by the Examiner.

By the present amendment, independent claim 21 has been added to include the subject matter of dependent claim 3 and its base claim 1, which were indicated by the Examiner as including allowable subject matter. Accordingly, it is believed that claim 21 is in condition for allowance.

Specification Objection

The abstract has been objected to due to the presence of minor informalities. In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that this objection has been addressed. In particular, the

term “comprises” is replaced with “includes” to overcome the objection. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

In addition, the specification has been amended to point out that the aperture 206 and the apertures 308 are not positioned at the central axial line and that the central bearing 314 is positioned at the central axial line. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added and that the originally filed specification, drawings, and claims support the amendments to the specification. Entry of the above amendments to the specification is earnestly solicited.

Claim Objection

Claim 20 has been objected to due to the presence of minor informalities. Claim 20 has been cancelled. Accordingly, this objection has been obviated and/or rendered moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-2, 5-14, 17-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Bates, U.S. Patent No. 4,076,393. Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Sung, U.S.

Patent Application Publication No. US2003/0011911. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

In light of the foregoing amendments to the claims, Applicants respectfully submit that these rejections have been obviated and/or rendered moot. As the Examiner will note, independent claims 1, 6 and 17 have been amended and claim 20 has been cancelled to address the Examiner's rejections.

Referring to amended claim 1, the color wheel comprises a carrier element, a filter group and at least one connection component, and the carrier element has a first carrier and a second carrier. The carrier element rotates around a central axial line; that is, the first carrier and the second carrier both rotate around the central axial line. In addition, the first carrier has at least a first aperture which is not positioned on the central axial line (*i.e.*, it is position off of the central axial) and a filter bonding zone of the filter group has at least a second aperture which is also not positioned on the central axial line (*i.e.*, it is position off of the central axial).

Neither of the first aperture and the second aperture are positioned on the central axial line of the carrier element and the filter group. The connection component, which is simultaneously mounted in the first aperture and the second aperture, fixes the filter bonding zone of the filter group between the first carrier and the second carrier.

In combination of the connection components disposed in the first and second apertures not on the central axial line, the connection components can provide enough resistance to the sheer force and moment even if it is made of a soft or elastic adhesive agent. It would avoid the filter group from deviation.

However, the thermal stress-relieving coupling member and support of Bates utilize a screw 44 to fix the filter 14 through the central opening 16 of the filter 14 and the common central opening 35 of the pressure equalizing disk 34. The screw 44 is disposed at the center of the filter 14 and the pressure equalizing disk 44. The screw cannot provide the advantage similar to the connection component of the present application because the screw and the openings are all positioned at the center thereof. Furthermore, the screw cannot make of a soft or elastic adhesive agent; otherwise the filter 14 may vibrate and deviate very seriously because the screw is disposed at the center thereof.

Bates never suggests or teaches to utilize the connection components disposed in the first and second apertures to avoid the filter group from deviation. The screw of Bates and the connection component of the present application are placed at different positions. The first and second apertures are disposed out of the center of the carrier element and the filter group to provide enough resistance to the sheer force and moment thereby avoiding the filter group from deviation. Accordingly,

the structures of the connection components of the present application and the screw of Bates are different. The functions thereof are also different. Furthermore, the screw and openings of Bates cannot achieve the advantage of the connection components, the first aperture and the second aperture of the present application.

The structures, function, and results thereof are all different. Accordingly, in view of the invention as a whole, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 is not anticipated by the cited references. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added and that the originally filed specification, drawings, and claims support the amendments.

With regard to claim 17, Bates never suggests or teaches to form the first and second apertures in the filter bonding zone and the first carrier and to connect a connection component to the first aperture and the second aperture to fix the filter group onto the carrier element. Accordingly, in view of the invention as a whole, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 17 is not anticipated by the cited references.

Since Bates fails to teach each and every limitation of amended independent claims 1 and 17, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 17 and their dependent claims clearly define over the teachings of Bates. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Since the remaining patents cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject the claims, but merely to show the state of the prior art, no further comments are necessary with respect thereto.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

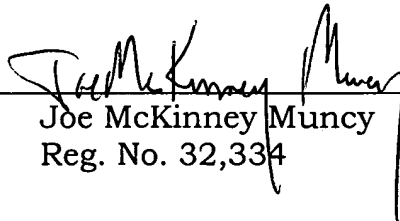
In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Joe McKinney Muncy, Registration No. 32,334 at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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